GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2113
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Staff Strength in Passport Offices
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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no increase in the staff strength in various cadres at various regional passport offices across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment/study to enhance the staff strength in regional passport offices across the country in view of increase in the volume of issuance of passport;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time when the last study was conducted by the concerned Department; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

(a) to (f) The Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) under the Ministry of Finance conducted a work study of Central Passport Organization in 2005 and recommended creation of 395 posts and abolition of 102 posts in different grades. Following this, the sanctioned strength of Central Passport Organization was increased from 2056 to 2349 in 2006. The sanctioned strength has also been increased from 2349 to 2697 on 11.6.2010 in view of the introduction of the Passport Seva Project. Since then, there has been no increase in the staff strength of the CPO.

There are 2157 posts filled-up against the sanctioned strength of 2697. The vacant non-Gazetted posts in CPO are filled up through promotion/Limited Departmental Competitive Examination and Direct Recruitment through Staff Selection Commission on regular basis as per Recruitment Rules. As an interim measure, Data Entry Operators have been deployed against the vacant non-Gazetted posts for smooth functioning of the Passport Offices. The vacant Gazetted posts are filled up through promotion and deputation as per Recruitment Rules.
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